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12-12IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Athena CHRISTODOULOU, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 09/940,615) Statement
Filed: August 29, 2001) Group: 2622
For: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
EMBODYING DOCUMENTS") Examiner: not yet assigned
) Our Ref: B-5060 948588-3
) Date: May 15, 2003

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

MAY 22 2003

Technology Center 2600

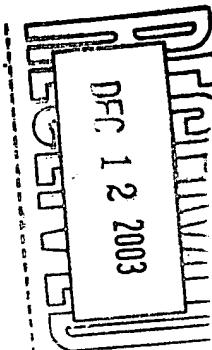
Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the United Kingdom Search Report for a related United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0117886.2. A copy of the Search Report (1 page) is enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered



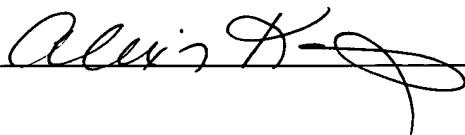
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USSN 09/940,615
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on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on May 15, 2003 by Alexis Karriker.



Respectfully submitted,



Ross A. Schmitt
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 42,529

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of Search Report for GB 0117886.2 (1 page)
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)

MAY 20 2003

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-5060 948588-3	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/940,615
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANT(S) Athena Christodoulou, et al.	
	FILING DATE August 29, 2001	GROUP 2622

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE OR 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,287,194	2/1994	Lobiondo	358	296	
	5,970,224	10/1999	Salgado et al.	395	115	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	2000-250726	9/2000	JP			abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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